Rachel Fertik/DC/USEPA/US

02/03/2012 05:17 PM

To Sheila Eckman, Dan Rinella, Barbara Butler, Bill Dunbar, Cara Steiner-Riley, Cindi Godsey, dbauer, gblair, Glenn Suter, gsummers, Hanady Kader, Heather Dean, Jason Todd, Jeff Frithsen, Jenny Thomas, Jim Wigington, Joe Ebersole, jrice, Judy Smith, Kate Schofield, krock, Lorraine Edmond, Marianne Holsman, mbozeman, Michael Szerlog, mmatthies, Palmer Hough, Phil North, rgrismala, Richard Parkin, Bob Seal, Thomas Fontaine, wmcconnaha

CC

bcc

Subject Report out RE: 2/1 Meeting with the Bristol Bay Native Association of Alaska delegation members

Greetings -

On Wednesday afternoon, EPA's American Indian Environmental Office hosted a meeting with the Bristol Bay Native Association. Based on the sign-in sheet, it doesn't appear that the Region was in attendance, so I'm providing a brief summary of the meeting. It was essentially a listening session, and at the close of the meeting, there were no unanswered questions remaining.

I hope this distribution list (from one of Sheila's emails) includes all the appropriate team members, so please forward it if I left anyone out.

Thanks.

- Rachel

Main points:

- BBNA is strongly opposed to the mine: 81% of BBNC shareholders oppose the Pebble mine.
- Emphasized that the entire economy and cultural heritage is dependent on the salmon. Salmon and other wildlife are culturally essential; they predict major loss of caribou herds.
- Concern about earthquake risk and the safety of the waste impoundment.
- Asked how the risk assessment will be applied.
- Discussed public meetings at the end of the public comment period, saying "they will be bigger than a basket ball game" i.e. huge attendance.
- Encouraged EPA to visit www.bristolbayvision.org, which includes statistics on the public hearings to date.

Attendees

Dennis Andrews of New Stuyahok, AK Victor Seybert of Pilot Point Tribal Fred Angasan of South Naknek Village Council Ralph Anderson of BBNA David Evans - OW/WD Denise Keehner -OW/OWOW David Guest - EPA AIEO JoAnn Chase - EPA AIEO

It might be good to cross check the attendee names against our public outreach list to be sure that they are receiving our updates and info.